UNITED NATIONS **S**

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1995/52
18 January 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 17 JANUARY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to refer to the letter dated 21 December 1994 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq addressed to you concerning the contract concluded with the American company Evergreen for the supply of three helicopters, together with their American crews, to work with the United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission (UNIKOM) in the place of the Canadian company. That letter protested against the contract, given the tense relations obtaining between the Republic of Iraq and the United States of America, and called for the contract reached to be reconsidered with a view to ensuring a reasonable degree of impartiality.

I should like to inform you that at 1140 hours on 11 January 1995 a UNIKOM helicopter belonging to the Evergreen company flew over the Iraqi port of Mina' Khawr al-Zubayr, which is outside the demilitarized zone. This is to be regarded as a flagrant violation of mandated functions.

I lodge a strong protest against an incident that is to be regarded as an infringement of Iraqi national sovereignty, and I request you to intervene, as required by the responsibilities entrusted to you under the Charter of the United Nations, to prevent any future recurrence.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nizar HAMDOON
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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